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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (original): A method of regenerating spent FCC catalyst in a regenerator having a spent catalyst inlet and a fluidization gas distribution system at a lower end of the regenerator, said method comprising:

- a) collecting catalyst from the spent catalyst inlet in a hopper;
- b) fluidizing the collected catalyst in the hopper to provide a hydraulic head;
- c) passing catalyst to multiple points near a surface of a dense phase catalyst bed using a horizontally extended header having a plurality of horizontally extended outlet arms;
- d) contacting the catalyst with fluidization gas in the regenerator to burn off at least part of the coke present on the spent catalyst to produce regenerated catalyst; and
- e) recovering regenerated catalyst from the dense phase of the catalyst bed.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein step b) is performed with an air distributor located at the bottom of the hopper.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of fluidizing the header using an aeration lance to assist catalyst flow from the hopper to the outlet arms.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of passing catalyst to a dilute phase within the upper part of the regenerator through an opening in the top of the hopper.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of passing catalyst through an outlet in the side of the hopper to a point near the surface of the dense phase catalyst bed.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein the fluidization gas comprises air.

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Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein the surface of the catalyst bed in step c) is within the upper and lower fluctuations of the transition boundary from a dense fluidized catalyst phase to a dilute flue gas phase with entrained catalyst.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of producing a recovered flue gas from the regenerator having a reduced NO<sub>x</sub> content.